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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2013

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SECURITY GUARD ATTACKER LOCKED UP FOR NINE YEARS

MAN STOLE MONEY AFTER VICIOUS INCIDENT WITH BASEBALL BAT

A 32-year-old man from Northampton who attacked a security guard with a baseball bat and stole £25,000, has been jailed for nine years.

Jamie Threadgold, from Windsor Crescent, Northampton, was found guilty at Northampton Crown Court last week of robbery and possessing a bladed weapon in public.

Following a three-day trial, the judge sentenced him to nine years in prison for the offence of robbery and two years for possessing a weapon, to be served concurrently. He had previously pleaded guilty to concealing/converting criminal property, for which he received two years and nine months, and possessing criminal property, for which he received two years and nine months. The sentences are also to be served concurrent to the robbery sentence.

Ben Ukaegbu, aged 32, from Windyridge, Northampton,

assisted Threadgold in trying to launder the money. He pleaded guilty to concealing/converting criminal property and possessing criminal property. He was sentenced to two years and nine months for each charge, to be served concurrently.

A spokesman for Northamptonshire Police said: "Threadgold carried out the violent cash-in-transit robbery in Weedon Road, Northampton, on June 18, 2013.

"The security guard was attacked with a baseball bat outside Barclays Bank and a cash box containing £25,000 was taken from him.

Det Insp Louise Fleckney, from the Criminal Investigation Department, said: "The sentences these offenders have received reflect the seriousness of their crimes.

"The public should be reassured that their ability to cause harm has been brought to an end by their prison sentences."



Jamie Threadgold (left) was jailed for nine years, and Ben Ukaegbu locked up for nearly three years

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Traders back plans for free car parking

Traders said a free parking scheme for Northampton town centre could help transform its fortunes as a shopping destination, and stem the flow of people going to Milton Keynes.

Free parking schemes will be offered every day at four car parks, under new budget plans unveiled by Northampton Borough Council.

These proposals in the 2014-15 draft budget would enable motorists to park free for up to two hours on weekdays and all day on Saturday. Parking is already free on Sundays.

The changes apply to the St John's, St Michael's, Mayorhold and the Grosvenor Centre multi-storey car parks.

The council said the move would cost it £664,783 in lost charges, but would encourage more people to come into the town centre, as shown by a successful trial in August.

Milton Keynes charges up to £1.40 an hour to park, and is 20 miles from Northampton.

Sue Roberts, chairman of Northampton BID, said: "This shows the town is open for business and we want people to come to us."

"Northampton is not like walking into a big warehouse. We've got a variety of independent



stores which give you a much more interesting shopping experience, independent cafes and restaurants and charming pubs.

"It is a traditional town centre shopping experience."

Many traders agreed with this outlook. Jonathan Williams, managing director of Montague Jeffery, in St Giles Street, said: "I think this is a superb idea, to be welcomed. Anything which will bring people into the town, and bring footfall back to the town centre, is to be congratulated."

"Lots of things are happening in Northampton and the town needs to get a positive message across."

Roy Harland, managing director of Watts the Furnishers, in Abington Street, said: "Politically, we've had green policies to keep cars out of the town centre. People have got out of the habit of driving to the shops."

"We have got to get back to welcoming and encouraging the car customer. If footfall and car park figures grow, you will get more retailers."



Jonathan Williams, managing director of Montague Jeffery, has backed the free parking initiative.

How the budget breaks down at the Guildhall

■ The borough council's budget is just over £30 million and, within that, the biggest investment is the capital investment programme of £13.6 million. This includes £3.5 million to

demolish the Greyfriars bus station and £1.1 million towards the restoration of Delapre Abbey.

■ The introduction of free parking will cost £382,435 for the first two hours free plan, and £282,348 for

free Saturday parking.

■ Staff costs are currently £19.5 million a year, and proposed changes to terms and conditions will save £365,000 a year.

■ A business incentive scheme will cost £250,000 and additional neighbourhood wardens and park rangers will cost £121,750. Extending museum opening hours will cost £41,000.

£3 million to reopen Abington Street to traffic

AScheme to reopen the top of Abington Street to traffic will cost the taxpayer £3 million.

The plans will see the street re-opened between Wellington Street and St Giles Terrace, and were first mooted in the Conservatives' election manifesto in 2011.

The ruling Tories at Northampton Borough Council confirmed their intention to proceed with the plan in September.

And councillors approved the scheme at a meeting held last week.

Cabinet papers said the



How Abington Street will look.

scheme would be funded by "capital receipts and prudential borrowing," which would cost the authority up to £300,000 a year. It also said there was a risk that the project may be overspent.

The council said work would start in the current financial year, although the item is included in the 2014-15 budget. The plan has been met with a largely negative reaction on the Chron's Facebook page.

Brian Crutchley said: "Very bad move - waste of £3 million. This will not improve the town centre."

Stephen Tyler said: "Don't fix what isn't broken. If they go ahead with this we are going to end up with people using it as a rat run."

But Glen Cousner said:

"People moan because the town centre is dying. Then, when the council open up the street to encourage more trade, they moan again."

One-way traffic movement will be allowed from the junction of St Giles Terrace and Dychurch Lane, north along St Giles Terrace, west along Abington Street and north along Wellington Street.

There will also be public realm improvement works in Lower Mounts, Wellington Street and St Giles Terrace. The Francis Crick sculpture will also be relocated.

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The 8,000 students who use Northampton's new town centre university campus will not be able to park on the site, it has been revealed

Plans to move the University

of Northampton to the site of the town's former power station, off Bedford Road, were first revealed in April last year.

The £330 million development would feature new university buildings spread over a

development of 430,000 sq ft, as well as a range of new shops, a hotel and sports facilities.

But the vast majority of the 8,165 students who use the site will not be able to park there as the university's 760 parking

No student parking at university's new site



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Factfile

- Plans for the new University of Northampton campus in Bedford Road would include 430,000 sq ft of university space with a further 161,000 sq ft of expansion space.
- There would also be 376,000 sq ft of commercial space and 38,000 sq ft of retail space.
- There would also be up to 1,500 beds of student accommodation and a 150 room hotel.
- Parking would include 760 spaces for the university and 1,100 for commercial use.
- It is expected that a total of 8,165 students would be based at the campus, which is due to open in September 2018 following the closure of the Park and Avenue campuses.

spaces will be set aside for 650 staff, 70 visitors, 25 disabled students and 15 halls of residence spaces.

A university spokesman said it was hoped the town centre location of the new development meant students would use public transport.

She said: "Within the higher education sector, it's not uncommon for universities located in town and city centres not to have student parking provision.

"There will be no parking for students, except for those with disabilities, and this will

be clarified to students in advertising and in the university's prospectus.

"Prospective students will therefore be aware they will not be able to park on campus before they join the university and will be aware that they are joining a university with in easy reach of the town centre, its facilities and transport connections."

The university's current Park and Avenue campuses, which would both close as part of the Nunn Mills scheme, have a total of 1,622 parking spaces.

But experts from Northampton Borough Council agreed that not as many would be needed at Bedford Road.

Documents due to be seen by the council's planning committee this week said: "Staff and students who currently drive in the absence of a convenient bus service between their home and the university, will be far more likely to use a bus that stops in the town centre and walk to the new site."

Apart from the university, the new site would have 1,100 parking spaces for business and leisure uses.

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NHS in financial special measures

The NHS in Northamptonshire has been placed in financial special measures after failing to save as much money as expected.

NHS Nene was expected to save £40 million this financial year, but it predicts it will miss its target by £8.6m.

It means an overseeing body, NHS England, can come in and examine finances with the ultimate sanction of sacking the bosses in charge if the black hole does not reduce.

Darin Seiger, chairman of NHS Nene, said: "We've never been in this situation before."

"This health economy has been bailed out for many years."

"There's no money down the back of the sofa this time."

NHS England is examining NHS Nene's plans and will decide which of the three interventions it will take.

Dr Seiger said: "There



Chairman of NHS Nene, Darin Seiger, has outlined the cost pressures facing the service.

are three levels of financial recovery. The first is monitoring, the second is a support team.

"Then there's intervention when the top team gets sacked, I get sacked."

"A new team come in and they will just be accountants who won't have the clinical

leadership. To avoid intervention we have to say we have clear plans of where we want to get to."

"If they don't feel the top tier are able to turn around the organisation, they will replace you. So it has to work."

NHS Nene said it was likely that its plan would include bringing cost-saving schemes scheduled for next year forward, such as schemes to reorganise musculoskeletal services.

It is also hoping to negotiate with Northampton and Kettering General Hospitals about handing them a budget for planned operations rather than paying per operation.

Dr Seiger said: "We will cover all their staff costs because the last thing we want is for the hospitals to fall down."

"We are saying 'what are your true costs' versus 'what you can charge the system'."

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A narrowboat owner was rescued by a passer-by after falling into the water at Gayton Marina

Marina crush man 'minutes from death'

A narrowboat owner was minutes from death when he was pulled from the water of a Northamptonshire marina by a passer-by.

The man, who was in his fifties, apparently fell from the front of his boat in the night into waters at Gayton Marina.

It was only after he had been in the water up to his neck for an hour that fellow boat owner, Rocky-James Watson, who was passing by, heard his shouts and dragged him out.

Mr Watson, 31, from Standens Barn, said: "I grabbed him by the back of his pants and hauled him out.

"His body was limp and he couldn't move.

"I picked him up on my shoulders and carried him back on his boat.

"I think he was on the verge of hypothermia. The paramedics said 10 or 15 minutes more and he wouldn't have been around."

Mr Watson had only been there through chance as he was visiting a nearby boat and had gone to get his mobile phone from his car.

Hearing the shouts he quickly untied the boat and pushed it away before dragging the man ashore.

The victim had apparently pulled himself along the boat to the back and tried to haul himself out by the mooring rope but his clothes were too heavy with water.

His efforts pulled the narrowboat towards him and he became trapped between the vessel and the jetty.

A volunteer community first responder was the first to attend, followed by an East

Midlands Ambulance Service car.

Paramedics treated the man for hypothermia as well as a head injury, although it is not clear how he suffered the latter.

He was then taken by the ambulance service for further treatment at Northampton General Hospital.

Mr Watson said he wanted the accident to serve as a warning to boat owners about water safety.

He said: "He has been a narrowboat owner for years but apparently he cannot swim.

"It just goes to show it doesn't matter how experienced you are, you can always get into trouble.

"Everyone can get an automatically-inflating life jacket with whistle and light to keep them safe."

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Northamptonshire Police is launching a Street Watch scheme, similar to one run in other areas across the country. Pictured above are group of Street Watch members in Sudbury, Suffolk

Citizens on patrol

Members of the public are being asked to join forces with Northamptonshire Police to patrol the county's streets.

Anyone who signs up to Street Watch, a new initiative being trialled, will be able patrol their local area to help discourage the low level issues that impact on the many people's lives.

Street Watch members will walk in pairs, wearing high-visibility jackets.

Northamptonshire Police said they would help to

prevent crime by "improving security, increasing vigilance and community spirit and reducing opportunities for crime by increasing crime prevention awareness".

Police and Crime Commissioner, Adam Simmonds, said: "Community safety is not just the responsibility of the police. We all have our part to play and the Street Watch scheme will empower people to safely patrol their streets and make a difference where they live."

Volunteers will also help police by reporting any suspicious behaviour in their area.

Police hope members will help reduce the fear of crime by providing accurate information about crime to neighbours and keeping an eye out for vulnerable people in their community.

The Northamptonshire scheme will be trialled in Irthlingborough and an information evening was due to be held last week for people to find out more details.

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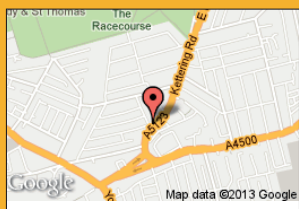
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Princess starred in panto

A woman has spoken of her surprise at discovering two 60-year-old photographs of her late father performing in a pantomime alongside the then future Queen, could actually be prized collectibles.

Kathryn Rogers, from Kingsley, has two photographs and signed programmes of her father with the young Princess Elizabeth taken during wartime pantos.

The photographs show Kathryn's father, Kenneth Richardson, posing alongside the rest of the cast in the two pantomime productions, staged in Windsor in 1943 and 1944.

However, closer inspection revealed that among the cast were the future Queen Elizabeth II and her sister, Princess Margaret.

Mr Richardson, together with his grandfather, both worked in Windsor Great Park, the only Royal Park managed by The Crown Estate, which is connected to Windsor Castle.

Kathryn said: "My father was later the head gardener



Kathryn Rogers, inset, with the photograph of her late father with Princess Elizabeth.

at the Savill Gardens.

"He was the head gardener there for about 44 years. My great grandfather before that was also a groundsman."

Owing to the family's royal connections, Mr Richardson became involved in Christmas pantomimes staged at Windsor Castle in 1943 and 1944 when he was a child.

The pantos were performed in front of a private

audience in the Castle's Waterloo Chamber.

Kathryn added: "The children were invited to go and take part and be the chorus line. I got the photos from my dad."

The 1943 production of *Aladdin* starred Princess Elizabeth in the lead role, with her sister performing as Princess Roxana.

In 1944, the young Queen

played Lady Christina Sherwood in *Old Mother Red Riding Boots*, with Margaret in the role as the Honourable Lucinda Fairfax.

The photos were hung on Mr Richardson's wall, but since his death three years ago have sat in a drawer in Kathryn's house.

She only realised their potential value because of the sale of a much larger collection

last week.

That collection, which included almost 60 pictures, was due to be sold last Wednesday at an auction in Gloucestershire.

She added: "We've just had them stuck in a drawer. We always heard the stories. I didn't think about them to be honest."

Kathryn said she was now keen to get them valued.

Play at Royal in line for top award

A THEATRE show produced by the Royal & Derngate has been nominated for a national award.

Popular theatre website, WhatsOnStage, has announced the nominations for its annual awards and Royal & Derngate Northampton's co-production, with Touring Consortium Theatre Company, of *To Sir, With Love* was nominated in the category for best regional production.

The WhatsOnStage Awards are the only major theatre awards in which audiences are the judges across all categories.

To Sir, With Love, by Ayub Khan Din, opened at Royal & Derngate in September 2013, before embarking on a nationwide tour.

The winners will be announced on February 23, 2014. To vote visit www.awards.whatsonstage.com/awards/vote

PICTURE BY KELLY COOPER MNCE-09-12-13-KC-K24



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Vandals are 'damaging their own community'

The manager of a charity which runs three community centres in Northampton has condemned the repeated "mindless" vandalism of the buildings which is costing hundreds of pounds to repair.

In the past year, the windows of both Standens Barn and Southfields Community Centre have been smashed and, last Friday night, a wooden gate belonging to Rectory Farm Community Centre was badly damaged. All three community centres are run by the charity Community Spaces and the money to pay for the repairs has to come from fund-raising.

Steven Richards, general manager of Community Spaces, said the regular vandalism was particularly disappointing as it was likely to have been carried out by people who lived in the local community.

He said: "The only people the vandals are harming is the community they live among.



The damage to a wooden gate belonging to Rectory Farm Community Centre

The vandals probably have had brothers or sisters or nieces or nephews who go to the pre-school based at the community centre, which now can't let the children outside as the gate is not secure.

"I don't see what joy they can get out of kicking a gate in."

Mr Richards said he was hoping to get a grant to provide money for some wire mesh to put round the windows of the community centres to

'The only people the vandals are harming are their own community'

protect the glass from being smashed. It is also hoped that money may be secured from the Proceeds of Crime Fund.

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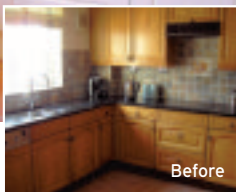
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Town's new station starts to take shape

The structure of Northampton's new railway station is quickly taking shape.

The white metal frame of the new building is now dominating the skyline around the station site and beginning to give commuters and glimpse of what the new building will look like.

Work on the frame began this month following the completion of the foundations.

The new station will be twice the size of the current building with better facilities, including and shops, cafes.

The vice chairman of the Northampton Rail Users' Group, Paul Minton, said: "I have been on the rail users group for 14 years and it's something we have been campaigning strongly for."

"This is something we have been waiting a very long time for and it is desperately needed. As a regular commuter, you become immune to the problems, but the station was very outdated. The flow of people through it is not very good and there are



work progressing Northampton's new station taking shape

bottlenecks.

"It's not a nice environment or a good welcome to Northampton for people."

"The building work hasn't really caused much disruption for commuters."

The new footbridge will be lifted into place overnight between Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The work has

been scheduled to take place when the West Coast Main Line is closed anyway.

The new station will be open by summer next year and will be followed by the demolition of the existing building.

Longer-term plans include potentially increasing the number of car parking spaces on the site.

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Mallard 75th Anniversary & the Head of Steam Museum

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On 3 July 1938, A4 class locomotive Mallard raced down Stoke Bank at 126mph to set a new steam locomotive world speed record. That record still stands. Mallard and its five surviving sister A4 locomotives will mark the 75th anniversary of Mallard's record-breaking run by gathering together for the Great Goodbye at The National Railway Museum, Shildon before the repatriated locomotives return to their home museums. That's the three operational A4s - Sir Nigel Gresley, Union of South Africa and Bittern - plus Dwight D Eisenhower, Dominion of Canada and Mallard.

- Visit to National Railway Museum, Shildon
- Visit to National Railway Museum, York or free time in York
- Admission to the Head of Steam Railway Museum in Darlington
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Discount chain in £25m deal to open 70 stores

A discount retail chain based in Northampton will open 70 new stores after receiving £25 million of funding from Barclays Bank.

99p Stores Limited, based at the Swan Valley industrial estate, is one of the fastest-growing businesses in the country and is set to increase to a total of 310 stores by the end of 2015.

Nadir Lalani, chief executive of 99p Stores Limited, said: "I am very proud of the growth we have achieved with 99p Stores so far, but we know from the popularity of our stores and customer feedback that

there is still a substantial opportunity to grow much further.

"This package of growth finance from Barclays will allow us to move quickly to the next stage of growth through an accelerated new store opening programme, giving more consumers in more locations access to our proposition of quality goods for under a pound."

Glen McDonald, relationship director at Barclays Northampton and Milton Keynes, said: "99p Stores and Family Bargains is a fantastic success story in what is a very challenging environment for retailers.

'99p Stores and Family Bargains is a fantastic success story'

The extended banking facility will allow the company to commence its plan of opening a further 70 new stores by the end of 2015 and to create local employment."

99p Stores Limited, based in a 375,000 sq ft distribution centre in Swan Valley, was founded by entrepreneur, Nadir Lalani, in January 2001.

PICTURE THIS



Russell opens new theatre space in town

STRICTLY Come Dancing star and famous astrologer, Russell Grant, took time out from pantomime rehearsals at The Light-house Theatre, in Kettering – where he is playing Phidias the Astrologer Royal in Snow White – to open a new auditorium

for the Looking Glass Theatre.

The new space is in the Newspaper House building, in Derngate and includes a reception, cafe, wardrobe and costume hire department as well as the theatre and three rehearsal rooms.

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ROAD TEST – PEUGEOT 308 FELINE E-HDI 115

Tests give their rivals the boot!

Just as well machines don't get bored; Peugeot made one slam the boot lid on its new 308 hatchback 6,000 times in rapid succession to prove it wouldn't rattle at the end.

It was part of a determined move to make the new model – as important a new Peugeot as we've ever seen – at least as well built as its competitors, or even a bit better.

The latest 308 is a little shorter and lower than be-

fore, but a bit wider and usefully lighter. It's all built on a new platform which allows for a new unshowy body.

The boot is bigger but room in the back seat is no better.

Along with a selection of familiar engines, the new 308 will gain a set of new petrol and diesel units that help make the car lighter and more economical than before.

Reduced exhaust emissions will appeal to the company car market and official fuel

figures of up to 78mpg will appeal to anyone filling the tank.

Step inside and you'll find an interior that looks smartly upmarket with styling flourishes that lift it above the clinically efficient cockpit and with a couple of stand-out features.

First is the tiny steering wheel, when you spot an almost complete absence of buttons, replaced by a big touch screen that acts like an iPad to control everything from sat nav and air conditioning.



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Acknowledgements

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Lyn

Robert, Elizabeth and William would like to thank family and friends for all their support and kindness during Lyn's illness.

Special thanks to The Oncology Dept at N.G.H, Cynthia Spencer Hospice, Saxon Spires Surgery, The District Nurses and all from NNCA. Special thanks to Richard Finch and Sons.

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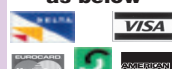
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Department for Transport

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
THE SECRETARY OF STATE hereby gives notice of the proposal to make an Order under section 247 of the above Act to authorise the stopping up of a length of Alley Yard off Sheep Street at Northampton, in the Borough of Northampton

IF THE ORDER IS MADE, the stopping up will be authorised only in order to enable development as permitted by Northampton Borough Council under reference N/2012/314.

COPIES OF THE DRAFT ORDER AND RELEVANT PLAN will be available for inspection during normal opening hours at Northampton Borough Council, The Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE in the 28 days commencing on 19 December 2013, and may be obtained, free of charge, from the Secretary of State (quoting NATTRAN/EM/S247/1180) at the address stated below.

ANY PERSON MAY OBJECT to the making of the proposed order within the above period by writing to the Secretary of State, National Transport Casework Team, Tyneside House, Skinnerburn Road, Newcastle Business Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7AR, quoting the above reference.

In submitting an objection it should be noted that your personal data and correspondence will be passed to the applicant to enable your objection to be considered. If you do not wish your personal data to be forwarded, please state your reasons when submitting your objection.

S. Zamenzadeh
Department for Transport

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19/12/2013



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INTO THE SUNSET Flexible, fun-loving Rugby lady, 49, would like to meet an honest, laid back guy, for good times, companionship and hopefully more in the future. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 158485 or send a text to 80361

FRIENDSHIP ONLY Youthful, reliable, honest, straight Northampton female 51, would like to meet male & female friends to socialize with. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 158485 or send a text to 80361

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IN THE MOOD FOR ROMANCE Easygoing, caring woman, 53, 5'5", slim build, enjoys eating out, the theatre and travelling, would like to meet a humorous, educated gentleman, of a similar age, to share interests and more. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 157445 or send a text to 80361

IF YOU'RE THE ONE Active, attractive, professional female, 54, 5'1", auburn-hair, hazel-eyes, seeking a friendly and honest, good-looking guy, for friendship, company and hopefully more. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 134415 or send a text to 80361

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GOOD COMPANY REQUIRED Kind-hearted Rugby female, 72, would like to meet a sincere, considerate male, aged 65-75, for good company, great conversation and a lasting friendship. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 153687



LOOKING FOR LASTING ROMANCE Easygoing, romantic Kettering male, 50, 6ft, medium build, enjoys cosy evenings in and cooking, looking for a similar female, to care for and love each other. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 149438 or send a text to 80361

I'M READY FOR LOVE Friendly, reliable Rugby man, 30, 6'3", with GSOH, interested in art, photography and drumming, would like to meet a woman, with similar interests, for a long term relationship. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 149827 or send a text to 80361

KEEP AN OPEN MIND Kind, trustworthy Kettering man, 40, 5'10", brown hair, blue eyes, GSOH, likes music, eating out and pubs, seeks a woman for friendship, company and good times. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 156434 or send a text to 80361

WALK THIS WAY Friendly, intuitive and sensitive Daventry gent, 44, 5'10", brown hair, average build, wants to meet an imaginative, sympathetic female, for companionship and maybe more. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 158897 or send a text to 80361

LOOKING FOR LASTING ROMANCE Easygoing, romantic Kettering male, 50, 6ft, medium build, enjoys cosy evenings in and cooking, looking for a similar female, to care for and love each other. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 149438 or send a text to 80361

FANCY A LAUGH? Romantic, considerate Northampton male, 53, enjoys walking, restaurants, and foreign travel, would like to meet the love of his life, of similar age and interests. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 151750 or send a text to 80361

LIFE-LOVING LIKE ME? Lonely, honest, caring male, 54, looking to find someone I can share my life with and look after. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 151117 or send a text to 80361

MADE TO BE HAPPY WITH YOU Sociable, solvent Rugby male, 56, 5'10", enjoys keeping fit, nights in and out, holidays abroad and the cinema, seeking a sincere female, age 50-60, to share quality time and maybe more. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 158026 or send a text to 80361

TACTILE & AFFECTIONATE Romantic, trustworthy and tactile Rugby male, 57, own home, 5'4", enjoys walks on the coast, holidays abroad and cosy nights in with someone special, seeking a sincere lady, to share life with. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 155197 or send a text to 80361

MADE FOR EACH OTHER Honest, sincere, caring, dedicated, humble, understanding Rugby man, 57, 5'4", average build, good sense of humour, looking for a responsible woman, to love and cherish. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 155299 or send a text to 80361

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LEADING TO LOVE...??? Youthful, fit, kind-hearted Wellingborough male, 64, would like to meet a younger female companion, for friendship and possibly more in the future. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 156898 or send a text to 80361

FRIENDSHIP FIRST! Widower, 67, retired lorry driver, enjoys playing golf, socialising, meals in/out, looking for a nice lady to spend time with. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 151028 or send a text to 80361

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BROWN EYED GIRL Caring, sensitive, brown eyed Daventry woman, 36, 5'5", brunette, enjoys cosy nights in with a good film, would like to meet a similar woman, for friendship, possibly more. Call 0906 403 0737 and enter box number 158165 or send a text to 80361

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SPORT

Aidy hails 'promotion form'

Boothroyd says Cobblers will soon be out of relegation trouble

FOOTBALL

Aidy Boothroyd is confident his Cobblers side will soon be out of relegation trouble if they can maintain their 'promotion form'.

Town remain in the Sky Bet League Two relegation zone after their 1-1 draw at Bury on Saturday.

It means they have lost just once in their past five league fixtures, with wins over Fleetwood and Accrington featuring alongside draws at Chesterfield and Gigg Lane.

Saturday's results elsewhere have bunched up the teams at the bottom of the League, with just two points now separating 19th-placed Bury and 24th-placed Torquay, who beat Southend United.

Northampton play host to Wycombe Wanderers on Saturday before heading to Burton Albion on Boxing Day and Boothroyd is confident that, in time, concerns about the drop will be a thing of the past.

"We've had two home wins and two away draws and that is - dare I say it - promotion form," he said.

"But obviously we're not in the promotion places.

"For me it was important

that we bounced back from the Grimsby game and we've done that.

"I'm old enough and experienced enough to know that if you maintain the sort of application and effort that we have been doing, that at some point, it would change around.

"We're getting chances in all our games - even at Hartlepool we hit the post early in the game. Going 1-0 down at Bury put a question mark over me and the players and we responded."

Meanwhile, Chris Hackett says he would have no problem taking a penalty for the Cobblers despite missing from the spot at Bury.

The winger blasted his effort from 12 yards over the bar, becoming the third Town player to fail to score a penalty this season.

Hackett, though, will volunteer for the task.

"Of course I would," he said. "Sometimes you miss them and sometimes you score them but I would definitely take another one.

"If the strikers want to take them then that's fine, but I would have no problem stepping up and taking one if the situation came up again.

"Whoever is assigned to take penalties will take them and if that's me then that's fine."

LOOKING UP - Cobblers boss Aidy Boothroyd is confident his Cobblers side will soon be out of relegation trouble if they maintain their 'promotion form'



Vasily's stay cut short

VASILY ARTEMYEV'S stay at Saints is to be cut short with the wing returning to Russia.

The 26-year-old has expressed a desire to return home and has been released with immediate effect.

He made 33 appearances for Saints, scoring 45 points in the process, with his highlight a hat-trick on debut in an LV= Cup game against Saracens.

"We're sad to see Vas-

RUGBY

ily leave, but totally understand his reasons why," said Mallinder.

"He has worked extremely hard in his time with us and has learned a great deal.

"He is an intelligent young man who has never given less than 100 per cent, and we wish him all the best for the future.

"Of course this leaves a bit of a hole in the squad, and we

will be bringing in someone to fill that gap in the not-too-distant future."

Artemyev says he has relished turning out for the Saints and paid tribute to the coaches and players for helping him improve since joining the club from VVA Podmoskovye in 2011.

"It has been a great honour for me to represent this magnificent club and play alongside the best players," he said.

Cam the man for Saints

SAINTS have announced the signing of America No.8 Cam Dolan as injury dispensation for James Craig.

With lock Craig set to be out for a number of months after dislocating his shoulder in last month's LV= Cup win over Gloucester, Dolan will fill the gap.

The 23-year-old, who stands at 6ft 6in tall, has been impressing for his country in recent times, in the same squad as Saints star Samu

RUGBY

Manoa. Dolan recently joined Manoa on the scoresheet in America's win over Russia at Allianz Park and Northampton boss Jim Mallinder is looking forward to welcoming the new man.

"We've kept a close eye on Cam for a while and have been impressed by what we've seen," said Mallinder.

"He's a player who has a lot of natural talent and the physi-

cal attributes it takes to succeed, something he showed during the Autumn internationals and against the Maori.

"Although the American league is developing all the time it is a big step up to the professional environment of the Premiership and we're not expecting Cam to be the finished article immediately.

"It has been sad to see James Craig ruled out, but it has also given us the opportunity to bring Cam in."